

## Pseudomonas aeruginosa

### What is it?

Pseudomonas is a common bacteria found in soil and water.  
Pseudomonas infections typically occur in healthcare settings.  
Pseudomonas is often resistant to many antibiotics.



### Who is at risk?

- People on ventilators
- People with indwelling devices- catheter, tracheostomy, enteral tube.
- People with open wounds

### How is it spread?

- Contact with contaminated surfaces or equipment.
- Exposure of affected soil or water
- Direct contact from infected person- e.g. hand-to-hand.

### How can we reduce the risk?

- Good hand hygiene
- Regular equipment and environment cleaning.
- Organisation water management policy/maintenance schedule.

### What treatment is available?

- Antibiotics oral/enteral- limited due to resistance.
- Antibiotic- nebuliser- for colonisation.

### Key ways to reduce risk at Holy Cross:

- Leave tracheostomy inner tubes, containers and kidney dishes clean and dry.
- Change ventilator circuits as per protocol- weekly.
- Change suction tubing as per protocol- daily or within 72 hours.